

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A cosmetic composition comprising surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles and an anti-perspiring component.

Claim 2 (Original): The cosmetic composition according to claim 1, wherein the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles comprise water-absorbing polymer particles coated thereon with a silicone compound having at least one kind of functional group.

Claim 3 (Original): A cosmetic composition comprising water-absorbing polymer particles, an anti-perspiring component, and at least one member selected from the group consisting of silicone having a viscosity (25°C) of not higher than 5×10^{-3} m²/s and hydrophobic particles, the content of the water-absorbing polymer particles being 3 to 95 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the anti-perspiring component.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The cosmetic composition ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 3~~ of claim 1, wherein the average particle diameter of polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 0.1 to 50 µm.

Claims 5-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 2, wherein the average particle diameter of polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 0.1 to 50 µm.

Claim 10 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 3, wherein the average particle diameter of polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 0.1 to 50 μm .

Claim 11 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 1, wherein the amount of water absorbed into the polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 5 to 100 g/g.

Claim 12 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 2, wherein the amount of water absorbed into the polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 5 to 100 g/g.

Claim 13 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 3, wherein the amount of water absorbed into the polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 5 to 100 g/g.

Claim 14 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 4, wherein the amount of water absorbed into the polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 5 to 100 g/g.

Claim 15 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 9, wherein the amount of water absorbed into the polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 5 to 100 g/g.

Claim 16 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 10, wherein the amount of water absorbed into the polymer particles selected from the water-absorbing polymer particles and the surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles is 5 to 100 g/g.

Claim 17 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 1, wherein the anti-perspiring component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of an aluminum compound, a zirconium compound and a zinc compound.

Claim 18 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 2, wherein the anti-perspiring component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of an aluminum compound, a zirconium compound and a zinc compound.

Claim 19 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 3, wherein the anti-perspiring component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of an aluminum compound, a zirconium compound and a zinc compound.

Claim 20 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 4, wherein the anti-perspiring component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of an aluminum compound, a zirconium compound and a zinc compound.

Claim 21 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 9, wherein the anti-perspiring component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of an aluminum compound, a zirconium compound and a zinc compound.

Claim 22 (New): The cosmetic composition of claim 11, wherein the anti-perspiring component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of an aluminum compound, a zirconium compound and a zinc compound.

Claim 23 (New): A method of controlling perspiration, comprising applying a composition comprising surface-hydrophobated water-absorbing polymer particles and an anti-perspiring component onto the skin.